



# *NEWS RELEASE*

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### *Chippewa Valley Innkeeper Wins Wisconsin SBA 2007 Home-Based Business Champion Award*

**Menomonie:** **Maggie Foote** has won SBA's Wisconsin 2007 Home Based Champion award. Maggie has volunteered time and energy to improve the conditions of home-based and women-owned small businesses for many years.

Maggie has served as President and other board member roles for the Eau Claire Women's Network (a nonprofit business group) many times between 1982 and 2006. She helped organize and lead the Chippewa Valley Women Entrepreneurs organization during the 1990's and was the second coordinator of the Eau Claire's Women's Network, which had approximately 120 members at the time of her leadership. She was instrumental in the chartering of the Friends of the Red Cedar Trail and has continued to volunteer her help to that organization. Maggie is currently serving on the Menomonie Chamber of Commerce Leadership program curriculum committee as the Arts, Culture and Tourism chair

Maggie's forte is not one of policy development nor financial/business planning. When describing what she "does", Maggie said, "she was a concierge because she enjoys the challenge of matching people's needs and interests with experiences." Some of these matches include performing as a coffeehouse singer, bringing songs to her audiences; as a copywriter, establishing links between clients and their customers through the written word; as a community member, welcoming the opportunity to share her talents with other women seeking networking possibilities; and providing a satisfying experience to customers when she worked in restaurant management.

Maggie currently has two active businesses. She owns and operates the Oaklawn Bed and Breakfast on the outskirts of Menomonie, WI, and a Big Porch marketing consultant serving clients that include regional independent medical clinics and healthcare professionals not aligned with a major regional health care provider and other small businesses, and a free lance writer.

As SBA's Wisconsin Home Based Business Champion, Maggie was judged on her volunteering of time and energy to improve conditions for home-based businesses; her entrepreneurial training, policy development efforts, or financial or business planning specifically tailored for home-based businesses; her demonstrated interest in home based-business as an owner; and her measurable accomplishments in advancing home-based businesses such as initiating public policy or expansion of a program. Maggie is truly a champion for small business through her continued and untiring efforts in assisting small business owners in various different ways.

Maggie will be honored at the SBA/SCORE Awards Presentation Breakfast on Friday, June 1, 2007 at the Country Springs Hotel in Waukesha. For more information on the awards breakfast, please contact Mary Trimmier at (414) 297-1093 or email her at [mary.trimmier@sba.gov](mailto:mary.trimmier@sba.gov).

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